

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 9,14 and 16 are pending. By this amendment, claim 9 is amended and claims 10-13, 17 and 18 are canceled.

The Office Action indicates that claims 1-7, 14 and 156 are allowed, and that claim 10 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The subject matter of claim 10 has been incorporated into claim 9, so that claim 9 should now be allowable. The remaining rejected claims 11-13, 17 and 18 have been canceled, so that the rejection under 35 USC 102 is moot.

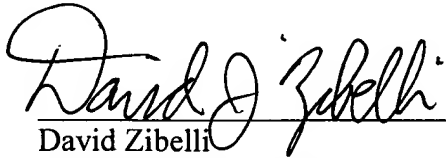
For at least the above reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

The Office is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 23, 2005



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